

## Message Text

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42

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 EUR-12

IO-10 ACDA-05 CU-02 SSO-00 NEAE-00 /080 W

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O R 051510Z JUN 75 ZFF4

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DOHA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4658

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 7127

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (FULBRIGHT, WILLIAM)

SUBJECT: SENATOR FULBRIGHT'S VISIT TO LEBANON

REF: STATE 125229

1. EMBASSY APPROACH TO LEBANESE FOREIGN OFFICE, IN WHICH WE RELAYED FACT THAT SENATOR FULBRIGHT IS LOOKING FORWARD TO HIS VISIT TO LEBANON AND INQUIRED WHAT ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN MADE FOR IT, ELICITED FOLLOWING INFORMATION. RESERVATION HAVE BEEN MADE FOR SENATOR AND MESSERS. THORPE AND KERN AT ST. GEORGE HOTEL NIGHTS OF JUNE 12-13, AND GOL WILL PLACE VEHICLE AT THEIR DISPOSAL THROUGHOUT THEIR STAY IN LEBANON. APPOINTMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR MEETING WITH LEBANESE FORMIN (CURRENTLY LUCIEN DAHDAH) AT 110 HOURS LOCAL AND WITH PRES FRANGIE AT 1300 HOURS JUNE 13 (AMBASSADOR WILL ACCOMPANY). IN ADDITION, PRES FRANGIE HAS INVITED SENATOR, HIS PARTY AND AMBASSADOR TO JOIN HIM FOR LUNCH AT PRESIDENTIAL PALACE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THEIR JUNE 13 MEETING.

2. WE ALSO INFORMED FONOFF OF SENATOR FULBRIGHT'S INTEREST  
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IN MEETING PLO CHAIRMAN 'ARAFAT DURING HIS BEIRUT VISIT.  
AS IS GOL'S CUSTON IN DEALING WITH SUCH SUGGESTIONS, FONOFF

RESPONSE WAS HESITANT AND ACCOMPAINED BY RECOMMENDATION THAT IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO ARRANGE SUCH MEETING THROUGH PRIVATE CHANNELS. ACCORDINGLY, WE MADE KNOWN SENATOR'S HOPE TO SEE 'ARAFAT TO INSTITUTE FOR PALESTINE STUDIES DIRECTOR (AND GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY PROF) HISHAM SHARABI, WHO HAS ENTHUSIASTICALLY AGREED TO TRANSMIT IT TO APPROPRIATE PLO CIRCLES. ASSUMING 'ARAFAT WILL BE PRESENT IN BEIRUT NEXT WEEK, WE EXPECT SHARABI WILL HAVE NO RPT NO TROUBLE IN SCHEDULING 'ARAFAT MEETING FOR LATE AFTERNOON OR EARLY EVENING JUN 13. (SHARABI WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN ARRANGING LAST MONTH'S MEETING BETWEEN 'ARAFAT AND CODEL BAKER.) SHARABI ALSO WONDERS IF SENATOR FULBRIGHT AND PARTY WOULD BE INTERESTED IN LUNCHING INFORMALLY JUNE 12 WITH VARIOUS PALESTINIAN PERSONALITIES (INCLUDING CERTAIN LESSER PLO OFFICIAL SUCH AS PLO PLANNING DIRECTOR NABIL SHA'ATH AND PLO OFFICE DIRECTOR CHAFIC AL HOUT) AND OTHER LOCAL FIGURES WHO ARE WELL PLUGGED INTO PALESTINIAN AFFAIRS HERE. (WE BELIEVE SENATOR WOULD FIND SUCH A GROUP INTERESTING.)

3. AS FOR OTHER ARRANGEMENTS FOR SENATOR FULBRIGHT'S VISIT, AMBASSADOR WOULD BE HAPPY HOST SMALL STAG DINNER AT RESIDENCE ON EVENING JUNE 12 OR 13, TO ENABLE SENATOR MEET AND TALK WITH NUMBER OF INTERESTING LEBANESE PERSONALITIES. NINE HOLES OF GOLF MIGHT BE INCLUDED LATE AFTERNOON ON EITHER 12TH OR 13TH.

4. WE WILL ALSO ENDEAVOR TO WORK MEETING WITH AUB PRES KIRKWOOD INTO SENATOR FULBRIGHT'S SCHEDULE, AS WELL AS OPPORTUNITY FOR HIM TO TALK WITH LEBANESE'S ELDER STATESMAN, DR. CHARLES MALIK. (IF SENATOR ACCEPTS STAG DINNER, THEY COULD BE INCLUDED.) IN ADDITION, AMERICANS FOR JUSTICE IN MIDDLE EAST (AJME), A GROUP OF LOCAL AMERICAN CITIZENS INTERESTED (FREQUENTLY SHRILLY SO) IN US-ARAB RELATIONS AND US POLICY IN ME, HAS INVITED SENATOR TO ATTEND AND SPEAK INFORMALLY AT THEIR MONTHLY MEETING NIGHT OF JUNE 13 IN BEIRUT. (WE SUGGEST SENATOR WOULD FIND MORE PROFIT IN DEVOTING TIME TO OTHER PURSUITS.) WE HAVE ALSO RECEIVED SEVERAL PRESS QUERIES FROM LOCAL US REPS OF AMERICAN NEWS MEDIA WISH TO HOLD BRIEF PRESS CONFERENCE WHILE HERE.  
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5. WE PLAN FOR SENATOR FULBRIGHT AND PARTY TO TRAVEL TO DAMASCUS MORNING JUNE 14 IN EMBASSY BEIRUT VEHICLE. REFTTEL INDICATES HE AND HIS PARTY WILL SUBSEQUENTLY TRAVEL DAMASCUS-CAIRO BY AIR JUNE 16, BUT LEBANESE FONOFF HAS INFO STATING HE PLANS RETURN BY CAR TO BEIRUT JUNE 16 AND PROCEED SAME DAY TO NEW YORK BY AIR. WOULD APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION OF SENATOR'S ITINERARY IN THIS RESPECT, AS WELL AS HIS REACTIONS--BY IMMEDIATE CABLE--TO SUGGESTED ARRANGEMENTS NOTED ABOVE.

GODLEY

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